



St Paul's CE Primary School

Newsletter

www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk

25th September 2015

Message from the Headteacher

We are reaching the end of our third full week at school and so much has happened in school already. I am delighted to welcome our new families in Nursery and Reception classes, as well as those who have joined us in other classes across the school. I hope that you are settling in and that your children are enjoying being with us.

If you haven't already, do come and say hello. I am on one of the school gates at pick up or drop off and so is Mrs Cossar, the Deputy Headteacher. Other staff you might meet on the gates are Mr Lacy and Mrs Riley, both senior teachers on the leadership team, Mrs Churcher, Mrs Pearce or Miss Fletcher, our administrative team or Mr Riley and Mrs Hellyer, members of our premises team. We are on the gates to answer queries and to get to know you all, please feel free to speak to any of us.

Class teachers are available for a quick chat or to answer simple queries at the end of the day, in the school playground. Please wait until they have dismissed the pupils. All staff can be contacted via email to the school office: office@stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk. You can make an appointment to meet a teacher via the office or directly at the school gate. We have parents' evenings each term, listed in the diary at the end of this newsletter.

I am sure that we have a busy and exciting year ahead and will share the highlights with you in my newsletters throughout the year.

Curriculum and School Information

Each half term you will receive a newsletter and curriculum overview from your child's teacher. These documents are also uploaded to the 'learning' pages of the school's website: www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk. There is a wealth of information on the website and regular news updates with pictures from school events. In addition there is a calendar of school events and a contact section for communicating with school. If you haven't already had a look at our website, please do so.

We have an email circulation account. From time to time we circulate details via text or email. If you are not receiving emails or texts, please check that your personal details are up-to-date with the school office.

Homework

Following feedback from last year, we are making some changes to the homework resources that we use in school. The English and Maths subject leaders are preparing the resources, which will be circulated shortly.

Reading books are already going home and your child's teacher will have shared the routines for these in the autumn class newsletter.

On occasions you may feel that your child is struggling or flying through the books they are being given in school. If this happens, please let your child's teacher know. They will be happy to offer further support or consider a move up in the complexity of books.

Harvest Service

We have a programme of services in church led by different year groups. They are listed in the school calendar of events. Parents and relatives are most welcome to join us for these events. The first service will be led by year 5 on October 8th at 10:00am in St Paul's church. We will invite all pupils to bring in a harvest gift in the week of the service, to add to the harvest collection. The harvest gifts are distributed amongst the elderly and vulnerable after the service. If you have a friend or neighbor who may welcome a harvest gift, please let the school office know.

Lunches

We are very proud of our school meal service, which is run entirely 'in-house'. All meals are freshly prepared and cooked by our catering staff and served in 'family service' at lunchtimes.

School meals are currently free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 under the government's Universal Free School Meals offer. Children in years 3,4,5 and 6 must pay for their meals, unless the family is eligible for free school meals. Families receiving state benefits or tax credits may be eligible. Please speak to a member of the administrative team in the school office to find out more.

Pupil Premium

Pupil premium is a scheme that provides additional funds for pupils whose families receive specific benefits or tax credits. In order to qualify, parents must make an application for free school meals (whatever year group your child is in). We use these funds to offer additional support to pupil premium children. There are full details of what we use the pupil premium funding for on the 'pupil premium' page of the school website:

<http://www.stpauls.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/pupil-premium>

If you think your family may qualify for this additional funding, please do speak with a member of the school office team.

PE

Physical Education takes place throughout the school year. Details of PE kit regulations can be found in the uniform section of the school website. It is essential that children do not wear earrings on the days that they have PE. If your child wears earrings, please remember to remove them on the day that they have PE. Class timetables can be found in the class newsletters.

Uniform

We have a smart and practical uniform. Full information of the uniform requirements can be found on the school's website. Hair accessories should be in school colours.

In colder weather girls should wear tights to keep them warm. Lycra shorts are not part of the uniform for girls and should not be worn.

Concerns/problems

From time to time concerns or problems arise. In the first instance these should be directed to the class teacher. If the teacher is unable to resolve the issue, please make contact with a member of the school's leadership team.

The leadership team are on the gates at the start and end of the school day to help with most queries and concerns.

Alexandra House

The building works at Alexandra House are complete and we are now in the final snagging stage. The building is finished to a high standard and staff and pupils seem to be settling in well. The road closure is also in place, giving us a safe crossing point between sites. I am very grateful to you for parking responsibly and not using Albany Road at all.

School Routines

With the new site in operation we have a number of new routines. The children seem to be responding to them well. Breakfast club and aftercare are now based on Alexandra House. If you wish to have a place in either of these clubs, please speak to the office staff.

All enquiries to the school once the gates are closed at 8:55am on Alexandra House need to be made via the school office on St Paul's site. In this way we can ensure that all staff and pupils are safe and properly registered.

Birthdays

We like to mark pupil's birthdays and parents may wish to send in a few sweets or a small bag of sweets for each child, to give out at the end of the day. Cakes or party-bags are not allowed. A number of children have significant food allergies, so please do not send in sweets containing nuts or other common allergens.

Pre-loved packing cases for sale

Following our third move in as many years we are offering our cardboard packing cases in good condition at 50p each. Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase some.

Coming Up...

I have attached to this newsletter a copy of the school's term dates and a list of planned events for the school year. In each newsletter I include updates to the list of dates. The dates are also updated on the website calendar. Copies of the school's term dates can also be downloaded from the school website.

Community Noticeboard

On occasion we are informed of events and activities planned in the area, which may be of interest to our families. We do not endorse any of the notices below nor can we guarantee the quality of them.

Friends of St Paul's Recreation Ground

Please find attached to the email with this newsletter details of a community organisation being established to protect and develop the recreation ground. There are details of how to get involved on the attached document.